Remarks

Status of the Claims

The status of the claims according to the Examiner's Amendment mailed on December 17, 2007 ("Notice of Allowability") noted that claims 29, 31-42, 44-50, and 52-58 (as amended) were allowed and were to be renumbered as claims 1-27, respectively. Notice of Allowability at page 3. The Examiner proposed amendments to claims 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 41, 42, 49, 50, 57, and 58, noting that the amendments were authorized by the undersigned on August 2, 2007. Id at pages 2 and 3. Applicants respectfully contend that the amendments made by the Examiner to claims 31, 33, 34, 35, 41, 42, 49, 50, 57, and 58 were not the same as those authorized. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the present amendments to claims 31, 33, 34, 35, 41, 42, 49, 50, 57, and 58 be entered.

The Examiner's Amendment of December 17, 2007

Applicants respectfully note that the Examiner's amendment mailed on December 17, 2007 as part of the Notice of Allowability contains a number of inconsistencies relative to the claim amendments which Applicants and the Examiner agreed upon in telephonic interviews and emails exchanged on August 2 and 3, 2007. In support, Applicants refer to, and incorporate by reference herein the remarks and exhibits submitted in the "Applicants' Summary of the Substance of an Interview" filed on January 7, 2008. The present Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.312 is being submitted to correct those inconsistencies, and Applicants respectfully request that it be entered.

The November 5, 2007 IDS

Applicants electronically submitted a Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on November 5, 2007. The IDS is readily visible on both Public and Private PAIR, and according to a telephone call to the USPTO Electronic Business Center on January 30, 2008, the IDS is also visible on the USPTO's internal PALM system. Despite numerous telephone calls to the Examiner throughout January, February and March of 2008, and submission of a courtesy copy of the IDS to the Examiner's RightFax number, Applicants have not received notification that the Examiner considered the documents listed in the IDS. Accordingly, Applicants again respectfully request that the Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 5, 2007 be considered and that signed copies of the Forms PTO/SB/08A (one page) and PTO/SB/08B (two pages) be promptly mailed to Applicants.

Reconsideration of this application, entry of the above Amendment, and consideration of Applicants' November 5, 2007 IDS are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Elizabeth J. Haanes, Ph.D.

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 42,613

Date:

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-3934 (202) 371-2600

793725_3.DOC